

City of Bronson
Regular Council Meeting
January 14, 2019

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Cole, McConn, Kenny, Earl, Watkins
Absent: None

Public Comment – Joel Eichorn, owner of the apartment building at 204 N. Matteson St, was present to voice his opinion over the City's rental ordinance. He compared the City's fees to those of the City of Sturgis. He also compared the City's timeline for inspections to the City of Sturgis. Council thanked Mr. Eichorn for his comments and for coming to the meeting.

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$60,976.24. Seconded by Councilman Earl. Motion carried.

New Business – Adopt Parking Regulations Ordinance #210 – Councilman Kenny moved to adopt Ordinance #210. Seconded by Councilman Earl. Moved carried.

Adopt Recreational Marihuana Ordinance #211 – Councilman Earl moved to adopt Ordinance #211. Seconded by Councilman Watkins. Motion carried.

Approve Economic Development and Marketing Strategy – Manager Mersman provided Council with the final draft of the Branch County Economic Development and Marketing Strategy. The plan outlines economic strategies for specific individual communities in the county including the City of Bronson. He recommended to Council approve of the plan. Councilman Kenny moved to approve the plan. Seconded by Vice-Mayor McConn. Motion carried.

Staff Comments – Fire Chief Scott Wilber said the Bronson Fire Department handled 334 calls in 2018. He said he had 3 officers in training for front line duty and hopefully one more in the fall. He also said the City would be looking to replacing two trucks in the next 10 years.

Manager Comments – Manager Mersman said the high school Girls State Championship Volleyball team would be at the February council meeting. He also said the new fiber optic line is in place and the police department was now lien compliant with the line up and running.

Council Comments – Council thanked the DPW for their continued efforts to keep the streets clean and safe this winter. Vice-Mayor McConn thanked the police department for their work on the new parking ordinance. Mayor Cole read a letter of resignation effective June 1, 2019. She said she would be putting her home up for sale and moving out of the city limits. Vice-Mayor McConn moved to accept her resignation with regret. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried. All Council members expressed regret on the resignation of Mayor Cole but wished her the best in her future endeavors.

Adjourn – Councilman Earl moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Watkins. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.